

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Francois CUNCHON ET AL.

Serial No.: To be assigned.

Filed: June 20, 2001

For: **COMPUTING MACHINE WITH HARD
STOP-TOLERANT DISK FILE
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

Examiner:

Group Art Unit:

Corresponding to:
FR 00 07862
Filed June 20, 2000

McLean, Virginia

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTHonorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

After the title and before the first paragraph on page 1 at line 4, insert the following heading at the left-hand margin:

--FIELD OF THE INVENTION--;

Page 1, line 6, before the paragraph beginning "In a known way...", insert the following heading at the left-hand margin:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

Page 1, at line 30, and before the paragraph beginning "To eliminate ..." insert the following paragraph at the left-hand margin:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--;

Page 2, at line 9 and before the paragraph beginning "Other details...", insert the following heading at the left hand margin:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--;

Page 2, at line 13 and before the paragraph beginning "Referring to Fig. 1...", insert the following heading at the left hand margin:

--DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT(S)--;

Page 5, after line 13, insert the following new paragraph.

--While this invention has been described in conjunction with specific embodiments thereof, it is evident that many alternatives, modifications and variations will be apparent to those skilled in the art. Accordingly, the preferred embodiments of the invention as set forth herein, are intended to be illustrative, not limiting. Various changes may be made without departing from the true spirit and full scope of the invention as set forth herein and defined in the claims.—

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel the claims in their entirety and substitute the following claims for the claims in the application. The claims that follow are a complete set of "clean" claims. The original claims marked up to show the changes with underlining and bracketing are included as an attachment to this Preliminary Amendment:

1 –9. (old claim 1) A computing machine (1) comprising a RAM (3) and a
2 mass memory (5) operating system for the machine stored in the mass memory, the
3 mass memory (5) including a partition (8), said partition being read-only accessible
4 to the operating system, and containing a startup function, an automatic repair
5 function, and a mounting function for mounting said operating system.

1 10. (old claim 2) A computing machine according to claim 9, characterized
2 in that said startup function comprises a first code sequence for loading the contents
3 of the partition (8) into the RAM (3) and a second code sequence for activating said
4 automatic repair function in the RAM.

1 11. (old claim 3) A computing machine according to claim 10,
2 characterized in that said automatic repair function comprises a third code sequence
3 that calls said mounting function, executable in RAM (3) with write capability in at
4 least one other partition (9) of the mass memory (5).

1 12. (old claim 4) A computing machine according to claim 11,
2 characterized in that said automatic repair function comprises a fourth code
3 sequence for acknowledging an error indicated by said mounting function and a fifth
4 code sequence for restarting the machine after the acknowledgement of the error.

1 13. (old claim 5) A computing machine according to claim 12,
2 characterized in that said partition (8) contains a standard acknowledgement function

3 and in that the fourth code sequence calls said standard acknowledgement function
4 executable in RAM with write capability in at least one other partition (9) of the mass
5 memory.

1 14. (old claim 6) A computing machine according to claim 9, characterized in
2 that the mass memory (5) is a hard disk.

1 15. (new claim) A computing machine according to claim 9, further including
2 a switch for resetting the RAM and restarting the machine.

1 16 (old claim 7) A method for automatically starting a computing machine
2 (1) having a RAM (3) and a mass memory (5) having an operating system stored
3 therein, characterized in that it comprises:

- 4 – starting operation of the machine (1) by means of a signal (7);
5 – loading into RAM (3) the contents of a partition (8) of the mass memory
6 (5);
7 – mounting an operating system from the RAM (3); and
8 – acknowledging any error indicated in mounting the operating system
9 and reactivating the loading of the contents.

1 17. (old claim 8) A method according to claim 16, characterized in that it
2 comprises, in the manufacturing phase of the machine (1):
3 – creating partitions (8, 9) in the mass memory (5);
4 – storing at least part of the operating system and functions for executing
5 the second, third and fourth steps (15, 16, 17) in a first partition (8); and

6 - said first partition (8) to be read-only accessible to said operating
7 system.--

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IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please delete the Abstract at page 8 in its entirety and substitute the following new Abstract. (An Abstract showing the changes using brackets and underlining is included as an attachment at the end of this Preliminary Amendment.)

-- ABSTRACT

A computing machine (1) comprises a RAM (3) and a mass memory (5) in which an operating system is stored. The mass memory (5) comprises a partition (8) that is read-only accessible to the operating system. Said partition (8) contains a startup function, an automatic repair function, and a function for mounting said operating system.--

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is made to eliminate informalities in the specification, claims and abstract resulting from a literal translation of the French text, to insert heading to conform to U.S. format, and to eliminate the use of multiple dependent claims.

The present application is believed to be in condition for examination, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:


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Date June 20, 2001

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Complete Set of Amended Claims Showing Amendments Made By**Bracketing and Underlining:**

1 --9. (old claim 1) [Computing] A computing machine (1) comprising a RAM
2 (3) and a mass memory (5) [in which an] operating system for the machine [is] stored
3 in the mass memory, [characterized in that] the mass memory (5) [comprises]
4 including a partition (8), said partition being [that is] read-only accessible to the
5 operating system, [said partition (8)] and containing a startup function, an automatic
6 repair function, and a mounting function for mounting said operating system.

1 10. (old claim 2) [Computing] A computing machine according to claim [1]
2 9, characterized in that said startup function comprises a first code sequence for
3 loading the contents of the partition (8) into the RAM (3) and a second code
4 sequence for activating [in RAM] said automatic repair function in the RAM.

1 11. (old claim 3) [Computing] A computing machine according to claim [2]
2 10, characterized in that said automatic repair function comprises a third code
3 sequence that calls said mounting function, executable in RAM (3) with write
4 capability in at least one other partition (9) of the mass memory (5).

1 12. (old claim 4) [Computing] A computing machine according to claim [3]
2 11, characterized in that said automatic repair function comprises a fourth code
3 sequence for acknowledging an error indicated by said mounting function and a fifth
4 code sequence for restarting the machine after the acknowledgement of the error.

1 13. (old claim 5) [Computing] A computing machine according to claim [4]
2 12, characterized in that said partition (8) contains a standard acknowledgement
3 function and in that the fourth code sequence calls said standard acknowledgement
4 function executable in RAM with write capability in at least one other partition (9) of
5 the mass memory.

1 14. (old claim 6) [Computing] A computing machine according to [any of the
2 preceding claims] claim 9, characterized in that the mass memory (5) is a hard disk.

1 15. (new claim) A computing machine according to claim 9, further including
2 a switch for resetting the RAM and restarting the machine.

1 16 (old claim 7) [Method] A method for automatically starting a computing
2 machine (1) [comprising] having a RAM (3) and a mass memory (5) having an
3 operating system stored therein, characterized in that it comprises:

- 4 – [a first step (14) that starts]starting operation of the machine (1) by
5 means of a signal (7);
- 6 – [a second step (15) that automatically loads] loading into RAM (3) the
7 contents of a partition (8) of the mass memory (5);
- 8 – [a third step (16) that automatically mounts] mounting an operating
9 system from the RAM (3); and
- 10 – [a fourth step (17) that automatically acknowledges] acknowledging
11 any error indicated in [the third step (16) and that reactivates the
12 second step (15)] mounting the operating system and reactivating the
13 loading of the contents.

1 17. (old claim 8) [Method] A method according to claim [7] 16,

2 characterized in that it comprises, in the manufacturing phase of the machine (1):

3 – [a fifth step (11) that creates] creating partitions (8, 9) in the mass
4 memory (5);

5 – [a sixth step (12) that stores] storing at least part of the operating
6 system and functions for executing the second, third and fourth steps
7 (15, 16, 17) in a first partition (8); and

8 – [a seventh step (14) that declares] declaring said first partition (8) to be
9 read-only accessible to said operating system.-

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Abstract Showing Changes Made Using Brackets and Underlining:**ABSTRACT****[COMPUTING MACHINE WITH HARD STOP-TOLERANT DISK FILE
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM]**

[The] A computing machine (1) comprises a RAM (3) and a mass

- 5 memory (5) in which an operating system is stored. The mass memory (5)
comprises a partition (8) that is read-only accessible to the operating system.
[, said] Said partition (8) [containing] contains a startup function, an automatic
repair function, and a function for mounting said operating system.

[Fig. 1]

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Examiner:

Francois CUNCHON ET AL.

Group Art Unit:

Serial No.: To be assigned.

Corresponding to:

Filed: June 20, 2001

FR 00 07862
Filed June 20, 2000For: COMPUTING MACHINE WITH HARD
STOP-TOLERANT DISK FILE
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

McLean, Virginia

PROPOSED DRAWING CORRECTIONSHon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

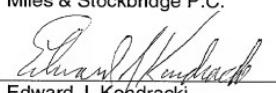
Applicant requests approval of the drawing corrections on Figs. 1 – 2
 as shown in red on the attached two (2) sheets.

The proposed corrections only comprise labeling the blocks of Fig. 1 to
 correspond the drawing to the specification and claims and removing the
 headings "1/2" and "2/2" to conform the application to U.S. practice.

Respectfully submitted,

Miles & Stockbridge P.C.

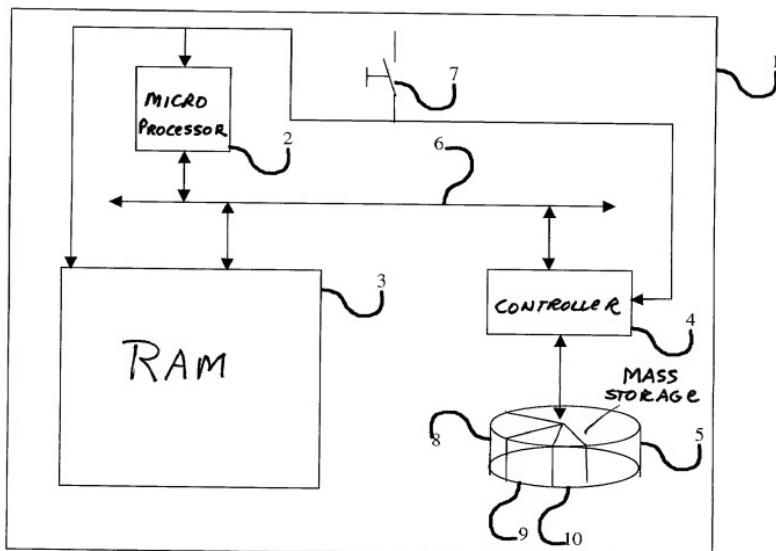
By:


 Edward J. Kohdracki
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Fig.1



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Fig.2

